# Miller, Jesse

From: Straus, Matt

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:16 AM

To: Miller, Jesse

**Subject:** FW: ReCommunity emissions data

From: Feldt, Lisa

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 04, 2013 7:05 AM

To: Rudzinski, Suzanne

Cc: Straus, Matt; Brooks, Becky

Subject: Re: ReCommunity emissions data

Thanks Suzanne. I believe OAQPS is taking lead with OGC help to talk to WM about emissions data needs which may be just process info as well. Are they asking ORCR to get? Lisa

From: Rudzinski, Suzanne

Sent: Monday, June 03, 2013 6:29:58 PM

To: Feldt, Lisa

Subject: ReCommunity emissions data

#### Lisa,

OAQPS is really the appropriate office to deal with the emissions data needed from Waste Management. With regard to what emissions data we had on dioxin formation for emissions, I am forwarding to you an email from July 27, 2012 to Peter Tsirigotis from ReCommunity that provides some background for you. The information they provided appears to be all process based rather than based on actual emissions data. We do not know whether OAQPS received any actual emissions monitoring data from ReCommunity.

Suzanne

----- Forwarded by George Faison/DC/USEPA/US on 05/21/2013 01:21 PM -----

From: "Hopson, Eli (DC)" < Eli.Hopson@lw.com>

To: Peter Tsirigotis/RTP/USEPA/US@EPA

Cc: "MBernstein" < MBernstein@mww.com>, David Cozzie/RTP/USEPA/US@EPA, Ravi Srivastava/RTP/USEPA/US@EPA, "Wyman, Robert (LA)" < ROBERT.WYMAN@lw.com>, < Jim.Bohlig@recommunity.com>, < Dingrong.Bai@recommunity.com>, < Paula.Calabrese@recommunity.com>, "O'Brien, Claudia (DC)" < Claudia.O'Brien@lw.com>, "Lawless, Ben (DC)" < Matt Straus/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, George Faison/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Jim Berlow/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 07/27/2012 05:00 PM

Subject: ReCommunity - summary of July 27 call

#### Peter,

Thank you again for taking the time to talk with us today, and on many prior occasions. We wanted to provide you with a short summary of our discussion today, as you requested. You specifically asked us for our understanding of the chemical processes behind dioxin production, and how ReCommunity expects ReEngineered Feedstock to perform compared to current 100% coal fired boilers.

As you know, the dioxin formation process involves complicated mechanisms in fuel combustion. In the case of coal fired

boilers, dioxins are predominately produced by the so-called *de novo* reaction, which requires the following four basic necessary conditions, namely:

- Cl<sub>2</sub> as a chlorine donor,
- polyphenols as chlorine receptors,
- optimal temperature, and
- catalysts (in fly ash).

Because ReEngineered Feedstock will be co-fired with coal and contains sorbents that remove chlorine from the flue gas, it is reasonable to expect reductions in dioxin formation compared to 100% coal firings for the reasons we discussed, which are summarized below.

# **Chlorine donor - molecular chlorine availability for dioxin formation is reduced:**

## 1. Sorbents in ReEngineered Feedstock drive Cl<sub>2</sub> removal

The formation of dioxins and furans (PCDD/F) requires a chlorine donor –elemental chlorine ( $Cl_2$ ). It has been well documented from lab tests and field experience that sulfur inhibits formation of  $Cl_2$ . Sulfur inhibition can be explained by the chemical reaction

$$Cl_2 + SO_2 + H_2O = 2HCI + SO_3$$

During ReEngineered Feedstock co-firing,  $SO_3$  will be absorbed more easily by the sorbent component of ReEngineered Feedstock, which also neutralizes HCl. As a result, the above reaction shifts towards the right (improving consumption of  $Cl_2$ ). Since  $Cl_2$  concentration in the flue gas is reduced, its availability to PCDD/F formation is reduced.

### 2. Cl2 is removed prior to temperatures that allow dioxin formation

Importantly, ReEngineered Feedstock delivers sorbent to be chemically available both in the boiler and immediately after the flue gas exits the boiler. This compares favorably to traditional after-treatment technologies that remove chlorine after the flue gas temperature has dropped into the dioxin formation ideal range (300-600° F). ReEngineered Feedstock's sorbent is available earlier in the combustion process, when temperatures far exceed that of the ideal dioxin formation, at around 1,800-2,200° F. As a result, there is likely to be far less chlorine actually available for dioxin formation at the later stage in the combustion process where PCDD/F are most likely to be formed. This should lead to dioxin formation below that of a similar 100% coal fired boiler.

# 3. Molar CI/S ratios of ReEngineered Feedstock in typical 20-30% cofiring indicate successful inhibition of dioxin formation

Extensive research has demonstrated that when the S/Cl ratio is greater than about 3, the inhibition of PCDD/F formation by sulfur is consistent. In a typical cofiring scenario, ReCommunity estimates that the total fuel mixture's S/Cl molar ratio would be about 24. This ratio is significantly above the commonly required 3 to suggest significant inhibition of sulfur on PCDD/F formation. Note that with decrease in Cl in ReEngineered Feedstock due to the thermal treatment and PVC removal, this S/Cl goes even higher.

While we believe that those factors alone are indicative of reductions in dioxin formation, we would also note that ReEngineered Feedstock is also likely to reduce chlorine receptor availability, and catalyst concentrations in fly ash. Polyphenols are produced due to incomplete combustion. ReEngineered Feedstock is highly volatile and manufactured to proper sizes to achieve complete combustion. In fact, due to its high volatility, ReEngineered Feedstock promotes coal combustion and thus the possibility of the occurrence of a de novo synthesis is reduced. ReEngineered Feedstock also contains lower levels of the most effective catalysts for the *de novo* reaction, copper and iron. Compared to the coal Cu (1-240 ppm) and Fe (77-140,000 ppm) contents, ReEngineered Feedstock contains considerably less Cu (0-

50 ppm) and Fe (0-100 ppm), and thus should contribute fewer catalysts in the fly ash to promote dioxin formation.

As a result, ReEngineered Feedstock is likely to reduce dioxin formation compared to facilities firing 100% coal.

Thanks, -Eli

## Eli W.L. Hopson

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